

MINNESOTA CORN AND SOYBEAN ACREAGE INTENTIONS UP

(NOTE: The acreage that farmers actually plant in Minnesota and the U.S. may change from those published in this report due to many factors, including farm bill uncertainty, availability of credit, grain prices, changing weather conditions, availability of inputs, and the influence of this report on farmers' plans.)

**SOYBEAN** intended acreage is estimated at a record 7.4 million acres, up 200,000 acres from 2002, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service.

**CORN** growers in Minnesota intend to plant an estimated 7.4 million acres for all purposes, up 200,000 acres from last year.

**SPRING WHEAT** acreage intentions are estimated at 1.95 million acres, down 50,000 acres from last year.

**SUGARBEET** intended acreage of 487,000 acres is down 18,000 acres from 2002.

**OAT** planting intentions at 300,000 acres are down 29% from last year.

Minnesota's **BARLEY** intentions decreased 14% from last year as farmers intend to plant 180,000 acres.

The state's **ALL SUNFLOWER** intentions of 90,000 acres are up 29% from 2002. **OIL** acreage of 55,000 would be up 15,000 acres from 2002. **NON-OIL** acres of 35,000 would be up 5,000 acres from last year.

Crop	2002 Planted	2003 Intentions	% change previous year
	<i>-1,000 acres-</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Corn	7,200	7,400	+3
Soybeans	7,200	7,400	+3
All Wheat	2,040	1,978	-3
Spring Wheat	2,000	1,950	-2
Durum Wheat	5	3	-40
Winter Wheat 1/	35	25	-29
Barley	210	180	-14
Oats	420	300	-29
Sugarbeets	505	487	-4
Dry Beans	170	140	-18
All Sunflower	70	90	+29
Oil	40	55	+38
Non-Oil	30	35	+17
Canola	80	70	-12
All Hay 2/	2,300	2,350	+2

1/ Acres planted in preceding fall. 2/ Harvested acres.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

CORN ACREAGE VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED AND SOYBEAN ACREAGE DOWN 1%

**CORN** growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2003, virtually unchanged from 2002 but 4% above 2001. Expected acreage is up in the eastern Corn Belt as growers are switching back to corn after planting soybeans last year when persistent wet weather in the spring prevented them from seeding corn. However, all States in the Great Plains, except North Dakota, are decreasing their intended corn plantings as continued drought conditions are expected to persist into the 2003 crop year.

**SOYBEAN** growers intend to plant an estimated 73.2 million acres of soybeans, down 1% from last year and, if realized, the lowest planted area since 1998. This is the third consecutive year that soybean acreage has declined in the United States. Growers in most of the Corn Belt and central Great Plains States intend to plant fewer acres in 2003. Expected increases in acreage, offsetting some to the decreases were located in the northern Great Plains, upper Mississippi Valley, Atlantic Coast, and Delta regions.

**ALL WHEAT** planted area is expected to total 61.7 million acres in 2003, up 2% from 2002. Winter wheat planted area for the 2003 crop is 44.3 million acres, up 6% from 2002. The 2003 other spring wheat planted acreage is estimated at 14.6 million, down 7% from last year. Area planted to Durum wheat is intended to total 2.83 million acres, down 3% from a year ago.

**BARLEY** growers intend to seed 5.38 million acres for 2003, up 6% from a year ago. The intended acreage in North Dakota is up 400,000 acres from last year. Fewer acres are expected in the Pacific Northwest States where dry conditions and concerns over water availability exist in some areas.

**SUGARBEET** area planted for the 2003 crop year is expected to total 1.40 million acres, 2% below the 2002 planted area. Minnesota and North Dakota, expecting 487,000 and 255,000 acres respectively, are both down 4% from last year.

(OVER)

BIOTECHNOLOGY VARIETIES

The National Agricultural Statistics Service conducts the March Agricultural Survey in all States each year. Randomly selected farmers across the United States are asked what they intend to plant during the upcoming growing season. Questions include whether or not farmers intend to plant corn or soybean seed that, through biotechnology, is resistant to herbicides, insects, or both. The biotechnology (biotech) questions were asked for the first time in March 2000. The States published individually in the following tables represent 81% of all corn planted acres and 89% of all soybean planted acres.

Conventionally bred herbicide resistant varieties were excluded. Insect resistant varieties include only those containing *bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). Stacked gene varieties include those containing biotech traits for both herbicide and insect resistance.

CORN FOR GRAIN: BIOTECHNOLOGY VARIETIES BY STATE AND UNITED STATES, PERCENT OF ALL CORN PLANTED, 2002-2003

State	Insect Resistant (Bt)		Herbicide Resistant	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
IL	18	24	3	4
IN	7	7	6	5
IA	31	38	7	5
KS	25	25	15	17
MI	12	13	8	9
MN	29	35	11	10
MO	27	29	6	8
NE	34	40	9	11
OH	6	7	3	3
SD	33	35	23	23
WI	15	21	9	9
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>	14	16	12	13
US	22	26	9	9
Stacked Gene Varieties			All Biotech Varieties	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
IL	1	1	22	29
IN	*	1	13	13
IA	3	4	41	47
KS	2	2	43	44
MI	2	1	22	23
MN	4	6	44	51
MO	2	3	34	40
NE	4	4	46	55
OH	*	*	9	10
SD	10	14	66	72
WI	2	2	26	32
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>	2	2	27	31
US	2	3	34	38

\* Data rounds to less than 0.5 percent.  
<sup>1</sup> Other States includes all other States in the Corn estimating program.

SOYBEANS: BIOTECHNOLOGY VARIETIES BY STATE AND UNITED STATES, PERCENT OF ALL SOYBEANS PLANTED, 2002-2003

State	Herbicide Resistant Only		All Biotech Varieties	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	68	79	68	79
IL	71	78	71	78
IN	83	91	83	91
IA	75	82	75	82
KS	83	84	83	84
MI	72	73	72	73
MN	71	75	71	75
MS	80	81	80	81
MO	72	80	72	80
NE	85	87	85	87
ND	61	70	61	70
OH	73	74	73	74
SD	89	90	89	90
WI	78	79	78	79
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>	70	75	70	75
US	75	80	75	80

<sup>1</sup> Other States includes all other States in the Soybean estimating program.

MINNESOTA GRAIN STOCKS DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

The Minnesota March 1 Grain Stocks Survey showed **CORN** stored in all positions at 663.1 million bushels, down 1% from a year earlier, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. On-farm storage of 510 million bushels accounted for 77% of the total.

**SOYBEAN** stocks in all positions was 158.4 million bushels, a decrease of 3% from March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks at 115 million bushels accounted for 73% of the total.

**ALL WHEAT** stocks in all positions at 46.3 million bushels were down 21% from March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks at 20 million bushels accounted for 43% of the total.

**BARLEY** stocks in all positions at 17.8 million bushels were down 19% from a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 2.0 million bushels made up 11% of the total.

**OAT** stocks in all positions at 19.2 million bushels were 11% below a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 5.1 million bushels, accounted for 27% of the total.

U. S. CORN STOCKS DOWN 11% AND SOYBEAN STOCKS DOWN 10% FROM 2002

**CORN** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 5.13 billion bushels, down 11% from March 1, 2002. Of the total stocks, 2.94 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 12% from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.19 billion bushels, are down 10% from the previous year. The December 2002 - February 2003 indicated disappearance is 2.51 billion bushels, compared with 2.47 billion bushels during the same period last year.

**SOYBEANS** stored in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 1.20 billion bushels, down 10% from March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks totaled 636 million bushels, down 7% from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 566 million bushels, are down 13% from a year ago. Indicated disappearance for December 2002 - February 2003 totaled 912 million bushels, down 3% from the same period a year earlier.

**ALL WHEAT** stored in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 905 million bushels, down 25% from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 233 million bushels, down 31% from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 672 million bushels, are down 23% from a year ago. The indicated December 2002 - February 2003 disappearance is 415 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

MARCH 1  
MINNESOTA & U.S. GRAIN STOCKS

COMMODITY	ON FARM		OFF FARM		TOTAL ALL POSITIONS		% CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	

-1,000 BUSHEL-  
MINNESOTA

CORN	500,000	510,000	171,287	153,143	671,287	663,143	-1
SOYBEANS	110,000	115,000	53,204	43,431	163,204	158,431	-3
ALL WHEAT	31,000	20,000	27,370	26,348	58,370	46,348	-21
BARLEY	2,300	2,000	19,818	15,813	22,118	17,813	-19
OATS	5,000	5,100	16,723	14,142	21,723	19,242	-11

UNITED STATES

CORN	3,355,000	2,940,000	2,440,263	2,192,318	5,795,263	5,132,318	-11
SOYBEANS	687,000	635,500	648,987	566,308	1,335,987	1,201,808	-10
ALL WHEAT	338,500	233,200	871,268	671,667	1,209,768	904,867	-25
BARLEY	46,000	36,730	95,748	86,783	141,748	123,513	-13
OATS	40,200	35,000	53,158	47,438	93,358	82,438	-12